GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3221
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2000
IMPORT OF EDIBLE OIL
LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY;MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT;RAMPAL SINGH;TRILOCHAN KANUNGO;VAIKO

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum and value of palm oil, crude and refined soyabean, sunflower and other edible oil imported during each of the last three years till date, year-wise, item-wise;

(b) the countries from where these were imported during the said period;

(c) the impact on the domestic edible industries as a result thereof;

(d) whether the production of edible oil in the country has been declining during the current year as compared to the last two years;

(e) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(f) the steps being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (S SREENIVASA PRASAD)

(a) The edible oils are mostly imported by the private trade. The oils imported are RBD palmolein, cottonseed oil, sunflower oil, canola/rapeseed oil, soyabean oil, crude palm oil, etc. Precise figures for the quantity and value of the various oils imported by the private trade are not available.
The quantum and value of the oils imported by the private trade in the last three years were as under:-

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Year  Quantity (Lakh MTs) Value(Approx.) (Rs. in crores)


1997-98  20.83    6,000
1998-99  43.93    9,000
1999-2000 44.95    7,000
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The details of the oils imported by the State Trading Corporation on Government account are given below:-

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Year  Quantity (Lakh MTs) Value(Approx.) (Rs. in crores)


1997-98  0.89    195.53
1998-99  1.55    0.12
  450.20    34.83
1999-2000 0.82    155.06
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(b) The countries from where the oils were imported are Malaysia, Indonesia, Brazil, Argentina, South America, etc.

(c) The import of crude edible oils has helped industry in terms of better capacity utilisation and higher value addition.

(d) According to available information, the production of edible oils in the country in the last three years has been as under:-

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Year Production of Oilseeds (lakh MTs)  Production of edible oils
       (Net availability)
       (lakh MTs)


1997-98   213.25    62.0
1998-99   252.10    70.81
1999-2000  211.80    62.17
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(e) & (f) : The basic reason for the decline in the production of edible oil has been the setback to the production of oilseeds which are the source material for edible oils.